

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a process for the preparation and improvement of D-pantothenic acid-producing microorganisms by amplification of nucleotide sequences which code for ketopantoate reductase, in particular the panE gene, individually or in combination with one another, and optionally additionally of the ilvC gene, the microorganisms containing these nucleotide sequences, and a process for the preparation of D-pantothenic acid comprising fermentation of these microorganisms, concentration of pantothenic acid in the medium or in the cells of the microorganisms, and isolation of the D-pantothenic acid.

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